

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9-11, 14-16, 21, 22, 24, and 29-32 remain in the application and claims 1, 5, 6, 9, 21, 24, and 26 have been amended hereby. Claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 12, 13, 17-20, 23, 25, 27, 28 and 33-45 have been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

A certified copy of priority document P11-202927 filed in Japan on July 16, 1999 is filed herewith as **Exhibit A**.

A replacement sheet for Fig. 13 is submitted herewith as **Exhibit B**. Fig. 13 has been amended to change the designation of the lower D/A converter from "88" to -94--, as described in page 64, line 19 of the present application.

Claim 33 and 45 have been cancelled, thereby rendering the rejection thereof moot.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claim 6 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claim 6 has been amended to change the recitation "superimposed" to--added--, as requested in the Office Action at paragraph 6.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 6 is clear and definite in its recitation of the present invention and meets all requirements of 35 USC 112.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1, 5, 9, 11, 12, 21, 29, 30, 42 and 44 under 35 USC 102(e),

as being anticipated by Epstein, of the rejection of claims 8, 17, 19, 21, 24, 32, 33, 35-38, 41, 43 and 45 under 35 USC 102(b), as being anticipated by Kori et al., of the rejection of claims 2, 6, 10, 15, 16, and 22 under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over Epstein in view of Kori et al., of the rejection of claim 4 under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over Kuroda et al., and of the rejection of claim 31 under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over Epstein in view of Ferrill et al.

Claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 12, 13, 17-20, 23, 25-28, and 33-45 have been cancelled, thereby rendering the rejection thereof moot.

Applicant notes the Examiner's finding of Allowable subject matter in claims 3, 7, 13, 25, 26, and 28.


Therefore, independent claim 1 has been amended to recite the limitations of claim 3, independent claim 5 has been amended to recite the limitations of claim 7, independent claim 9 has been amended to recite the limitations of claim 13 and intervening claim 12, and independent claim 21 has been amended to recite the limitations of claim 25 and intervening claim 23.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 1, 5, 9, and 21, and the claims depending therefrom, are in condition of allowance.

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An early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
COOPER & DUNHAM LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay H. Maioli". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jay" and last name "Maioli" clearly distinguishable.

Jay H. Maioli
Reg. No. 27, 213

JHM/PCF:pmc